

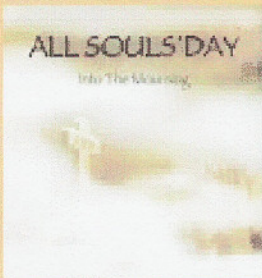


Department of Youth Affairs

Youth Writers

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

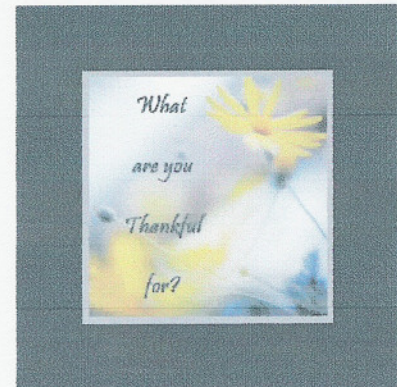
NOVEMBER 2010



WHAT I AM THANKFUL FOR

"What I am thankful for," is the theme for this November's issue of Youth Writers. Articles placed in this newsletter signify the warmth and sincerity of each individual. Each article is written with great thought and displays an array of feelings. You are definitely in for a treat—these articles are meant to open up your eyes and make you realize that there are a lot of things in life that we should all be thankful for. So, take the time out and ask yourselves, "What am I thankful for?"

Written By: Editor



"What are you **THANKFUL** for?"

Dear Lord...

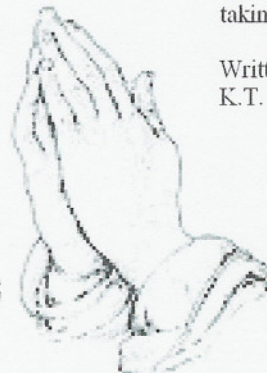
Dear Lord,

Thank you God for creating my mom and dad. Every time I think of them, it makes me sad. I'm sorry for all the wrong things that I have done. I thank you for treating me as your own son. I know I have been bad and that's why you gave up on me. I am always asking and asking, but I never get enough. I thank my mom for teaching me right from wrong. I remember when I could not sleep, you would hold me in your arms and sing me a song. I thank my dad for teaching me how to fight, but to never do it because it's not right. So, I thank you God.

Written By:
B.B. (Male)

I am thankful for my family because they help me with all my problems in life. I am thankful for God, because he kept my mom safe when she was in Afghanistan. I'm thankful for my friends for being there whenever I needed them. I am thankful for getting caught because I can learn what I did wrong. I am also thankful for the people here at DYA for taking care of us.

Written By:
K.T. (Male)



Thank you God.

Things that I am THANKFUL for



Be thankful for what you have in life.

I'm thankful for my family for always supporting me for who I am and what I do. I'm thankful for my mom for always being there for me and staying strong while I'm here in DYA. I'm thankful for my fiancée for changing me, helping me, for staying strong and for also being there for me and supporting my decisions even if it's bad. I'm thankful for being in DYA, separated from the community, because it has given me the time to think about what I'm becoming, a criminal felon, and how I can change myself. I always thought I could run on luck, but I took

things for granted and my luck ran out. I'm thankful for the path I have decided to take because it will make me a better person, especially out in the community. I'm thankful for the person that put me in here. I'm thankful for my friends, for taking care of my family while I'm in here.

Written By: J.M. (Male)

What I am thankful for?

I am thankful for my wonderful family who loves me so much and takes care of me. My family is very supportive and they teach me new things everyday. I especially want to thank my parents the most, because they are the ones who brought me into this world. My parents are the are trying to get me out of DYA because of my wrong doings and because they love and care about me a lot. I don't know what I'd do without my parents, because without them, I wouldn't be here right now. So, right now, I would like to thank my parents for everything they've given me.

Written By: J.P. (Male)

I am thankful to my mom and dad for bringing me into this world and for giving me brothers and sisters, who I am also thankful for. I am thankful for my grandma and grandpa on both sides for giving life to my mom and dad because if it weren't for them, I wouldn't have made it in school. I am thankful for having three beautiful nieces and one handsome nephew because they always brighten my day.

Written By: R.D. (Male)

I'm thankful for my family, because they take care of me. But, I am most thankful to our Lord, who is in Heaven watching over me everyday and night. He is the one who helps me and who I cry to when I need someone. Last, but not the least, I am thankful for the people in DYA, such as the staff and the social workers. I'm really thankful to them, because they try and help me change my attitude in life for the better.

Written By: I.I (Male)

I am thankful for my family, because they take care of me, support me, and help me when I have problems. I am thankful for the helpful staff here at DYA, because they talk to me and make me think. I am thankful for this place, because it has shown me what could happen if I kept releasing my anger on people. I am thankful that I learned how to try and control my anger. I thank God and my parents for giving me life. I thank Mr. Ed Taitano for helping me and listening to my problems. He has been a great help. I am also thankful for Mr. Ken Castro for helping me with my case. I thank God for opening my eyes to see what I have done and I am terribly sorry that it happened. I am thankful for life, happiness, joy, and for the love that these people and my family have shown me. I am also thankful that I have learned my lesson, because it hurts me to let my family see me in here. There are many things I am thankful for.

Written By: S.B. (Male)

I'm thankful to God because if it wasn't for him, I wouldn't be alive. I am also thankful to God because if it wasn't for him, I wouldn't have opened my eyes and realized that life's not a joke and to not take everything for granted. Another person I'm thankful for is my dad, because without him, I also wouldn't be here. I'm pretty thankful for my mom, because she was the one who carried me in her stomach for 9 months, but in a way I'm not thankful, because she's the one that's messing up my life. I'm also especially thankful for the systems and services that have been helping me since I've been incarcerated. I'm mainly thankful to one system, which is DYA, because if it weren't for them, I would still be doing the same crimes. I'll be honest that I've been here too many times, but my mind is partially still in the gutter. However, I do admit that DYA has really helped me.

Written By: C.R. (Male)



I am THANKFUL for my family.



Support is all I need...

something wrong. I am thankful for my grandma when she buys medicine for my pets for my grandpa when he gives me something I need. I am thankful for my friends and for my teachers. I am also thankful for food. I am thankful for God when I do something good and for my family and parents when they support me in whatever I need. I am also thankful for my brothers and sisters.

Written By: J.T. (Male)

I am thankful for my family, especially to my parents, because they help when I do

I am thankful to God for being there for me and to my mom, because she takes good care of me and supports me. I am thankful for my family, because they pray for me everyday. They do not want me in DYA, because it hurts them. I am thankful for God because he sent an angel to be here with me and for always being there when I needed him. But, I am most thankful to my mom, because everyday I think about the stuff I did to come here and it teaches me a lesson. When I get out, I am going to stop the wrongs I am doing and change my life instead of being bad, so that my family knows I can be a better person. I am also thankful to my sister for making me do the right things and for my grandmother for giving me what I need. I am thankful that my mom bought a new house for my family. She wants me to do very good. I am thankful to everybody that supports me.

Written By: D.W. (Male)

I'm thankful to God for giving me life and for being able to see what's coming to me in my dreams when he speaks to me. I'm thankful for my family when times are rough. I keep falling, as if off a cliff, but I can't fall because families can catch you and pick you back up on your feet and help put you back on the right path. I'm thankful that God gave me eyes to see my lovely, caring family, and ears to hear everything that goes on around my life and hear my family's positive comments. I am also thankful that God has given me hands.

Written By: J.A. (Male)

Rethink...Don't Drink!

It's time to change
I'm tired of being behind a cage
It's time to change
So my picture won't end up on the newspaper's front page
It's time to change
So I won't have to walk around with my leg iron chains
It's time to change
Walls covered up with graffiti paints
It's time to change
People dying for the gangs they claim
It's time to change
Cuz there's no one to blame
It's time to change
Cuz in the real life, we're all the same
It's time to change
So people won't think that I'm a shame

Written By: E.T. (Male)

Alcohol changed my life
I used to always strive
Strive to be the best
Strive to be better than the rest
Have fun everyday
Do things my way
But now I'm in jail
Sitting behind this cell
Wondering what's gotten into me
Cause this is not where I want to be
I never should've put that bottle in my mouth
Cause now I suffer cause I can't get out
Think about my family
Wonder if they'll ever forgive me

Forgive me for I have lied
Lied about drinking and made my mom cry
I really thought drinking was cool
But all it did was make me look like a fool
So don't drink cause that can be you too

Written By: R.H. (Male)

I know it wrong for me to say how I want your life to be, because I know I didn't grow up according to plan. That's because things got out of hand. So I tried to make my own plan. Tried to stay away from gangs. Cause they try to break my plans. Cause they knew deep down inside that this bad guy is hard to hide. They saw home come out from time to time, but I just didn't mind. Cause I thought they would never push my bottoms too far. But now look they use it again. That why I'm sitting in this pen all because I fought again.

Written By: C.R. (Male)

"Stop, Rethink... don't drink."
This is a message that many people want to get across to young adults and minors. You may think that drinking or opening up a bottle of beer is cool, but it's not. Every time you consume alcohol, it not only destroys your body, but also your family and future. Believe me because I know it from first-hand experience. I had lost an uncle from alcohol. Please stop drinking and use the money that you spend for alcohol on your children's education.

Written By: M.S. (Male)

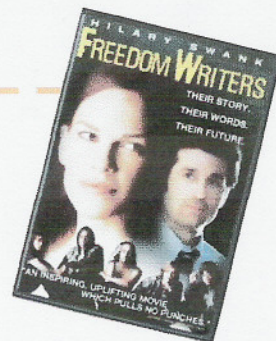
"It's time to
change. I'm
tired of being
behind a
cage..."



Drinking is **BAD!**

Freedom Writers!

What did you think about the movie?



The kids in the movie started out the way I started with my life. To me, the movie wasn't just a movie, it was something to make us realize our mistakes and to correct ourselves. We're not bad people. It's just the way we are, because we all make mistakes and they can be corrected like in the movie. In the movie, the kids weren't bad. They were just showing another side of them and pretty soon they showed the other side of them. They improved with their work, but most especially, their "LIFE".

Written By: S.S. (Male)

The movie "Freedom Writers" taught me that anybody can become a better person and that no one is perfect in life. It's just like me, because sometimes I think that I am perfect. The movie even taught me that being racist is not good and that it is happening in the world today, just like here on Guam. It's mostly about the Chuukese and the Chamorros. They tease each other about their race and what they are but now I think we need to put a stop to it because it is just stupid for people to be fighting about each other's race.

Written By: C.T. (Male)

The movie I watched is about kids who are my age. During the movie, they shared about how they were raised and how they were being treated. When I was watching the movie, it reminded me of how I was being raised. When I became 13-yrs-old, I moved out of my mom's house and I got involved with drugs, alcohol, and trouble. It reminded me of the kids that go to school here on Guam. Just like the movie, we teenagers fight over race, territory and respect. Nowadays, everybody just wants respect without giving any. When I was in the middle school, I went to DYA because I was always in trouble at school. As I was got older I kept going in and out of DYA, because of the choices I make. Right now I am 17-yrs-old and I am incarcerated for messing up in school. Just like the kids in the movie, I don't really like being in class.

Written By: M.B. (Male)

The movie "Freedom Writers" reminded me about what the Chamorro and Chuukese students do in school. They have their own hang-out spot and Chamorros can't pass. Like for example, when a Chamorro guy walks by my hang-out, it hurts me because it's like he is saying a bad word to me or being disrespectful, because I can't pass by his hang-out. But now I'm here in DYA with Chamorro guys. It's like one family and no one says "Go back to your island." We're all peaceful here in jail. I remember even when my little brothers come home from school, they tell me that a Chamorro guy told him, "Go back to your island." It makes me mad and want to fight with them. So for now, I would not say that I'm not Chuukese.

Written By: O.S. (Male)

I am thankful for...

I'm thankful for my family for them being here for me and always lecturing me about right and wrong. I'm thankful for getting caught because if I wasn't in here, I would still be doing the same things, such as getting into trouble and putting my family through so much struggle. I'm thankful for the system (D.Y.A) because it finally made me realize that I have to stop or I might end up in D.O.C. I know that what I'm doing is not only hurting me but my family too. I want to change, so that I can be a better role model to my little siblings. I want to be someone that they can look up to. I'm thankful that God watches over me and my family. I also pray that he helps me to change. I want to thank the Lord above for this day and that I'm still living.

Written By: E.T. (Male)

I'm thankful for my parents for forgiving me whenever I make stupid mistakes and for still loving and caring for me. I'm thankful for the friends that try to keep me out of trouble and still believe I could do better and change. I'm thankful for being in DYA and learning about my mistakes and how to make better choices in life and how to be the bigger man. I'm thankful to some of the DYA staff for giving me some advice like to "Control your anger and don't let your anger control you," or "Be the better man and walk away." I'm thankful to God for keeping me alive in this world and for giving me so many chances to change and to become a better person.

Written By: K.C. (Male)

For this special girl

I'm writing about this one special girl and how I want her to change her life. She has a good head on her shoulders. She's smart, beautiful, and funny and has a great personality... But she just makes the wrong choices... Hey I'm not perfect... nobody is... I just want her to know that I'm going to be here for her no matter what happens... I'll be there to catch her when she falls, if she slips... Now let's move on... Drinking, it doesn't do her any good but she thinks it does. I used to think that but look where drinking got me...? In this place she don't need to drink, to feel good about herself. It makes things worse... And it kills you... Smoking, she slowed down but that's not enough, well at least for me its not... You may say that smoking relieves stress but come on and get real. It doesn't. All it does is cause cancer... How does that help relieve stress? I'm writing this down so that everyone would know that I really care for this person. If she reads this she would know what I'm talking about.

-R. A. (Male)

THE CHOICES WE MAKE IN LIFE

In life we make a lot of different choices. Our future ahead of us depends on the kinds of choices we make. If we make right, smart, responsible, productive choices we might have a very successful life. If the choices we make are bad, negative, irresponsible, and unproductive then in the future we could probably end up a bum, poor, in jail, or even worst buried 6 ft. under. With the right choices families won't be torn apart, but with the wrong choices families would be torn apart for sometime or possible forever. I am writing these things because I know from first hand experience. I ended up in the Department of Youth Affairs (DYA) because of all the poor choices that I made in my younger life. As a young teen I had some great ambitions for myself and for my family. The problem was I thought I had everything I needed in life. In high school I joined J.R.O.T.C. and for the community I was a Youth Crime Watch Officer, and for the church I was a very young and active parishioner. Having so much control and fun made me lose focus of all my ambitions. I was looking at life from the small picture and not from the big picture. That right there was a poor choice that I made by looking at my life from the little picture when was suppose to be looking at it from the bigger picture. I think if I had been more responsible I wouldn't have ended up in DYA. To tell you the truth I've been in DYA for 3yrs and 6 months and still counting. I've been in here since I was 17yrs.old and now I'm 20yrs.old that makes me a young man legally. As I think about it I always wonder what my life would look like if I was not in here (DYA). Could I have been the military, or could I have been married and started my very own family, but the reality is it did not happen.

A lot of times I tell the kids in here to be strong and to start making the right choices in life now because they are not getting any younger anymore they are getting older. Some of these kids in here are parents and many times I use that against them to challenge them to start making responsible choices in their life, not only for them but also for the family that they had started young. Some of them would take my advice will others will let it slip by them like it was nothing. Again it all goes back to the choices we make. Like I said before the choices we make in life can make a huge difference for our future. One of the things that I've learn here in DYA that helped me with making better choices for myself and my future is a formula that I learned from the Counseling Case Management Supervisor Mr. Ed Taitano is the formula R2PT2. What it means is Respectful, Responsible, Peaceful, Truthful, and Team worker. This formula can help anybody out there better themselves if they are willing to; because I was willing it helped me better myself. It is a formula that is used in everyday situations. If one of these words is missing from the formula then it won't work. You need all of them to make the formula work and to be very effective.

M.S. (Male) 20

Useful advise

What happens in D.Y.A stays in D.Y.A.

D.Y.A is basically a facility with routines but it's not like Your ordinary daily routine at home, it's a more controlled process, between the times of 5 a.m. - 6. a.m is what we call reveille time to wake up and brush your teeth and get ready for school. Many of the clients go back to sleep after that, but only a handful stay up, I'm one out of that handful. I am 17 years and this is my 6th time in the system. And I can say I'm tired to those who haven't been here. Coming in here is the easiest thing to do. Getting out of the system is hardest. Let me ask a couple questions...

Do you want to be in one area?

Do you want to be away from your family?

Do you want to shower and use the restroom when told to?

Do you like to limit your food?

If you answer no to any of this then take this advice don't come in D.Y.A is not the place to be.

-J.B (Male) 17



DAY BY DAY

Day by day, night by night I sit awake on my bed in my cell thinking about my family. As the days and nights pass me by the hurt and pain inside of grows bigger and bigger. At night I wonder if I would ever be forgiven and accepted back into my family, the community, and ultimately by God the Creator Himself. I know that I made some bad choices growing up, but that doesn't make me a bad person. The community sees me as a lost cause, a person that doesn't deserve another chance and a person that is useless to the community. The only reason they do this is because they only know me for the entire negative that is written down in black and white. Why can't they look at me for the person that I really am, and for all the potential that I have. I would like the community (especially the court system) to see me as a local Chamorro who finished high school and has dreams of giving back to them community and one day make our island a better place for all. They always say that the only way rehabilitate someone is to provide them with the help and resources that they might need, but in my case all they did locked me up and throw the keys away so to say. I want the system to know that I've learned my lesson and that I am rehabilitated and ready to go back out to the community and show everybody what I've learned in DYA.

If anyone from the court system is reading this I would like to ask you to stop judging me for the entire negative that's on the paper and start judging me from the positive that is written down or just past verbally. I know it is your job to carry out the law, but not everyone deserves to be locked up for such a long time. You can never know a persons true potential and capabilities if you don't give them a chance and the resources that they need. Some times in your life you've got to take chances. So please give me the chance to prove to you all out there that doubts me! I am ready and that I am a changed person and there are a lot of people here in DYA that can stand up and gladly tell you that I am.

M.S / 20



FATHER & DAUGHTER LOVE

I'm thankful for my family...Always trying to be there for me

Especially my own father...I want to say thanks dad for always being there for me no matter what

I did to you... you were always there to lift me up When ever I fell... you always encouraged me to do well in life Because you wanted me to succeed in my career and not end up like my mother; a drunkie but hey at least my mom tried and she was also always there for me through out my whole life; my mother was always like a sister or a best friend we drink together, we cried together, we got stoned together, we also took care of each other no matter what... she tried to encourage me to do my G.E.D but I was to damn stubborn and I always wanted to party & party because that's what I was use to live with my but momma because you ways there my tears & through all but with my was a total story my

this RICH successful person who has everything cars, jet skies, trucks, a BIG house, he made it in his life, nothing let him down! I was also his everything until my ex step mother came along... that's when I wasn't so much in his life... every time this so called step mother would get mad, she would take it out on my own dad then my dad would take it out on me; which hurt me the most; I TRIED & TRIED my best to always be there and help out but I guess it didn't really matter because he wouldn't notice the good in what I have done... I couldn't take that negative vibe when I always came home, I couldn't always keep coming home & cutting myself and always thinking of suicidal thoughts, crying and begging my mother to come save me, so I ran & ran ... I had to move out of that! I always wished he would just pay attention to me like he use to when I was a little girl at least ask me how was my day at school when he came home from work? But not even that... I felt so neglected... so I moved in with my grandma who took care of me and I moved to Washington state with my mother; but yet that barely helped me because I wasn't succeeding always partied while my mom was at work; I took advantage of that and I messed up my own mothers job IM REALLY SORRY MOM but I'm here for you I will help you out! IM NOT GOING TO LEAVE YOU! I LOVE YOU NO MATTER WHAT. So we moved back to GUAM this island and I moved back in with my dad because I thought he needed me since his ex wife CHEATED ON HIM I knew she wasn't good for him; so I was there for him and my baby brother and he did start to realize what he did to me was wrong; & ever since then he was always there to pick me up whenever I fell or messed up in my life.. If it wasn't for him I don't think I would be successful in my life... I think I would still be partying out there and have no life; SO IM THANKFUL FOR MY DAD LIFTING ME UP TO SUCCEED IN MY LIFE & IM THANKFUL FOR MY MOTHER FOR ALWAYS BEING THERE. I LOVE YOU

BOTH! -I.M (FEMALE) 18.

GUILTY



Guilty until proven innocent you want to get mad but you shouldn't, they try to charge you but it's not true, they can point their fingers but is it really you?

The judges, the lawyers, the prosecutors, and staff can you get past and through this trail without cracking in half? God can see what you did but all you can do now is prove you didn't. If you can't well you'll have to sit in jail.

J.M (male) 17

REMEMBERING ARE LOVED ONES THAT PASSED THIS ALL SOULS DAY

UNCLE PAUL

I lost you so soon the call came at noon. Locked up in jail what was I to do? I didn't really know you that well but your stories got me to tell that you are wise and I can't criticize. Probably lived a hard life ended up with no wife, barely with nobody by your side but Uncle Paul I love you and sure miss the times how you let me know that I can succeed in my life. I'll remember every great laugh we shared but I also saw all the pain in your eyes you died I'm happy with tears, that my uncle Paul isn't suffering no years. I'll meet you in heaven someday. Miss you. Your with my in every way.

D.P (FEMALE) 18

Gone loved ones

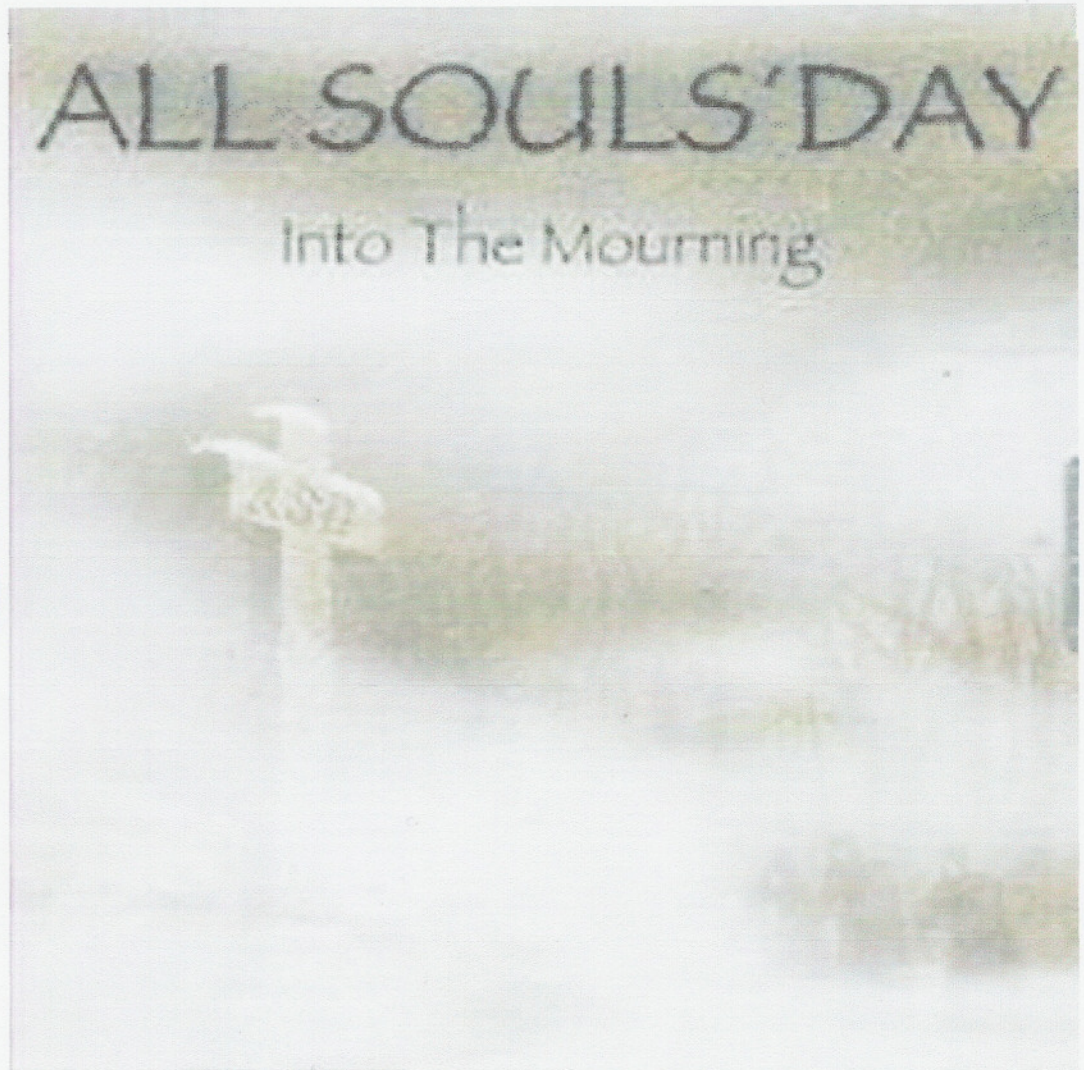
Today is the day that we remember all our loved ones that have gone to their rest in the hopes of rising again with our Heavenly Father up in Heaven. It is a time when everyone in the island goes to the cemetery to spend some time with all our loved ones that passed. To most especially I remember my grandparent from both sides of my family. With every one of them I have some fond memories of the times we spent together as a family. Even though they have gone they still live in me deep down in my little heart. I know that one day we will all be reunited up in Heaven where we all belong. Our Father put us in this world for a reason and He will take us when He thinks that we have finished doing what he has created us to do. May the perpetual light shine upon all our faithfully departed into the light of rising again.

M.S. (male) 20

ALL SOULS DAY

A special day to remember our loved ones they're resting in peace with our father up above heaven. We visit them with family and flowers but most of all with our love. They were once on this Earth whom God created but time had come and now they're buried or cremated we bring back all our memories on this special holiday. We come together with family and sit by their grave but not just today will they be in our thoughts they'll always be a part of us and forever in our hearts.

V.C,(female) 16



LIFE

Life has no manuals
 No instructions of how to handle the pain,
 the hurt, the angers
 That ranges the feelings that just linger
 there like
 It's in a cage
 But thank life because it taught me the way
 Even if I wanted to run away
 I knew that if I did
 It would come back someday
 So I had to face it life I had no fear
 But it didn't mean that I shed No TEARS
 I tried to always hide it
 Just cause I did not like it
 Cries of tears, was like weakness in my
 eyes
 Didn't want anyone to see, no sympathize
 And ask the questions why?
 It's my feelings, it's my thoughts
 That I keep inside, but if I let it out
 I'll run and scream it out LOUD!!!
 Life wasn't pleasant with me at all
 I was just a lost girl, but on hard times I
 held on.
 And that made me strong.
 And with that, Life brought me someone
 But up to this day... I hold on to this girl
 because...
 Anytime she could slip away.
 I just pray that she stays.

D.P. (FEMALE) 18



NEVER GIVE UP !

I'm 18 years old, and I've been coming in and out of DYA a lot of times. It's been about like 10 times. You may think I've never learned my lesson at all. Practically that's half of it, and the other half, I just didn't like doing the right things at all times, which is what my therapist Mr. Carlos Perez tries to drill in my brain "to do the right things at all times." I admit I tried. I still do, but I guess trying won't do no more. You got to just do it! I'm not a perfect person, and this world is not at all a perfect world. If it was, nothing won't have no feeling, It will be boring, senseless more nice.

I have no regrets in my past life, the mistakes that I have made, the obstacles that have come my way, and how I have overcome it. I'm not ever giving up, even if I'm behind these bars, because this is my life, and I'm doing this for me. Life taught me the way, and it made me who I am today. I never had it easy growing up, and I still don't, but hey, it only gets harder. No one said life's easy! All I know is that my sister Leona Aguon once told me this "anything worth having is worth working hard for!" INDEPENDENCE is what I want to have! And that I'll do for me! Why? Because I deserve it!

Written By: D.P. / 18

PERSONNAL THOUGHTS

God is not sleeping. He's awake, and He's the only one living. He's the only one revealing. Learn to be giving. Being thankful we're breathing. He holds the key to our future; He's our one & only teacher. Open our eyes, don't hesitate, don't think twice; the lord offers a peaceful paradise. Forever & ever, glory & Honor, worthy is our God he's our shield & AMOUR. The lord is merciful & forgiving; He loves & accepts us just the way we are. Didn't take advantage, Just to let you know, don't make it a habit. Just understanding who's in charge of our lifespan. When we can't stand on our own, we give praise to our lord, better yet shout, and just let it out, The Righteous one will hear, He the only one that'll bear our burden. Listen close, to our most, remember He'll give us shelter. Be corrected, from the most holy, most respected. The world's wisdom & knowledge brings destruction. All we have to do is hear the good news, the very truth of god's INSTRUCTION.

- Anonymous

MY FIRST TIME

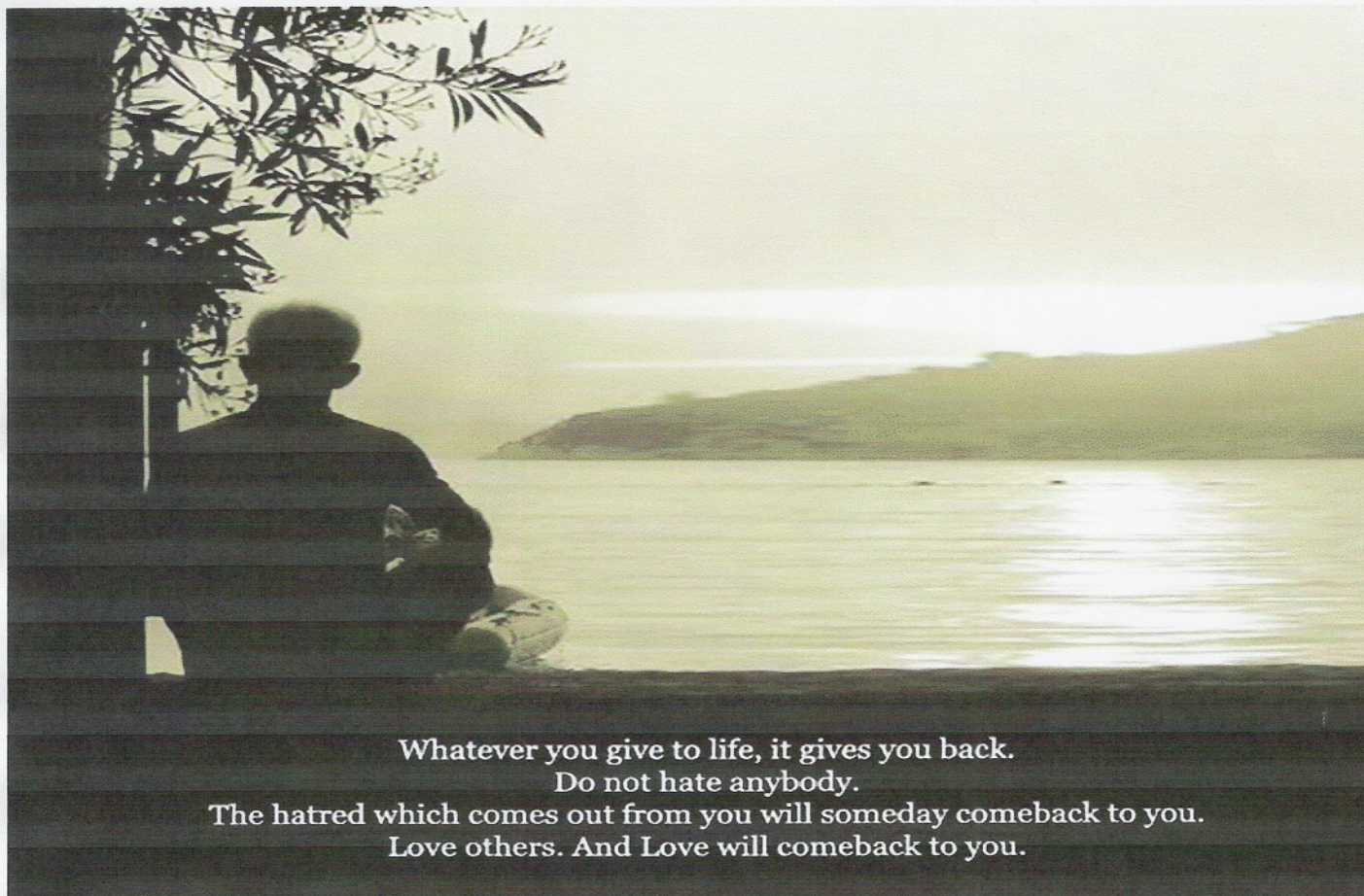
To be honest this is my very 1st time in D.Y.A and being in D- Unit. At 1st I was really nervous I really didn't know what to expect. But it turned out that I met a few interesting girls that call themselves RUTHLESS. It's a positive sisterhood kind of thing. Anyways the leader is Fade, My very 1st time here tried to scare me and it kind of did work. But we became pretty civil. Then there is Risk she is a very loveable girl. She can be easily approachable. Another girl is Dynamite she is crazy my 1st time here she wanted to try me out as fight with me but we too became civil. Oh I also met this girl named Tek-en she is really funny she was really nice to me. But please don't mess with her. Also there is Nicki Minash... She is totally a drama queen I.o.I she is just like O.M.G nahhh just kidding she real kick back. She is also pretty much straight out. So in conclusion I'm not trying to say D.Y.A isn't so much of a bad place it's just a place where teens go when they make bad decisions. But to be honest D.Y.A will teach you a lot and it will help you just don't do what is wrong.

K.O. (FEMALE) 16

PERSONNAL THOUGHTS

Firs of all I would like to say trust in God to lead the way! Only god is greater than all, as the day goes by listen for his call. As we learn to keep his teachings day by day, we will be fed the righteous way. Ask and you shall receive all of his blessings. Living for the lord each day, being thankful for what we got, for there's a reason god put us in this spot. There's a special place reserved for all, who believe that Jesus died to be our Living King. Renewing our soul with the Lord, confessing that we have sinned, being faithfully cleansed within. Loving the lord with all our hears, knowing God loved us from the start. By believing the word of God, Knowing the truth. Searching the way to be faithful. Having a humble heart within. Knowing we've sinned, faithfully being guided by our lord, continuing to do our chores. Doing our part which God commands, being supportive with a helping hand. Seek and you shall find, keeping in mind to always be kind. Loving and being unselfish, showing people you care, In the Midst the lord is everywhere.

- Anonymous



Counseling / Case Management Unit

The Counseling / Case Management Unit (CCMU) provides services such as individual, family counseling, and group sessions to clients who are remanded to the Youth Correctional Facility.

If a client is remanded, they are afforded the opportunity to participate in groups, conducted through CCMU by Mr. Ed Taitano.

Often, at times, the clients don't realize that they have made a mistake or used poor judgment in their lives, or realize the seriousness of their offenses until the courts order them to serve time at DYA for specific number of days, or are ordered to be on the step plan program.

CCMU tries to help the clients through video presentations or discussion addressing issues related to their confinement as well as to help them build positive character or to give them a better outlook on life.

Kudos to the clients at DYA, especially to clients M.S. and I.M., for typing the articles and putting together this newsletter regarding the views, outlook and experiences of their fellow peers, while serving time at DYA! Keep the momentum going. Good work!

To the clients, parents, and legal guardians, from all of us at the Counseling Case Management Unit, we would like to **"THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT"**.

Sincerely,

Mr. Ed Taitano
Mr. Kenneth Castro
Ms. Ovita Perez
Ms. Annie Rodriguez